

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 4, 8 and 11 as indicated below.

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus for reducing gaps associated with mounting peripheral cards in a computer system, the apparatus comprising:

a chassis;

a frame, the frame mounted on the computer system chassis, wherein the frame includes at least one opening adjacent to a peripheral card slot;

wherein the frame includes a plurality of tabs arranged around the opening, wherein the tabs on one side of the opening are staggered with respect to the tabs on the other side of the opening; and

a shield bracket, the shield bracket configured for coupling to a peripheral card mountable in the slot, wherein the shield bracket is slidable between a retaining portion of each of the plurality of tabs and a surface of the frame to cover the opening, and wherein, when covering the opening, the shield bracket is retained by the plurality of tabs;

wherein the frame and the shield bracket are made of a flexible electrically conductive material.

2. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 1 further comprising at least one spring finger inserted into a gap between the shield bracket and the frame.

3. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 2, wherein the spring finger is made of a flexible electrically conductive material.

4. (Currently amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, further comprising a fastener, wherein the fastener is coupled to ~~the~~ secure the shield bracket to the frame.

5. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the peripheral card slot is coupled to receive a peripheral component interface (PCI) card.

6. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the electrically conductive material includes copper.

7. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the electrically conductive material includes beryllium.

8. (Currently amended) A computer system, comprising:

a chassis;

a system board located within the chassis;

a frame mounted on the chassis, wherein the frame includes at least one opening adjacent to the peripheral card slot, wherein the frame includes a plurality of tabs arranged around the opening, and wherein the tabs on one side of the opening are staggered with respect to the tabs on the other side of the opening;

a peripheral card, wherein the peripheral card is mountable in a slot on the system board; and

a shield bracket coupled to the peripheral card, wherein the shield bracket is slidable between a retaining portion of each of the plurality of tabs and a surface of the frame to cover the opening when the peripheral card is

mounted in the slot, and wherein, when covering the opening, the shield bracket is retained by the plurality of tabs;

wherein the frame and the shield bracket are made of a flexible electrically conductive material.

9. (Original) The computer system as recited in claim 8 further comprising at least one spring finger inserted into a gap between the shield bracket and the frame.

10. (Original) The computer system as recited in claim 9, wherein the spring finger is made of a flexible electrically conductive material.

11. (Currently amended) The computer system as recited in claim 8, further comprising a fastener, wherein the fastener is coupled to the secure the shield bracket to the frame.

12. (Original) The computer system as recited in claim 8, wherein the peripheral card slot is coupled to receive a peripheral component interface (PCI) card.

13. (Original) The computer system as recited in claim 8, wherein the electrically conductive material includes copper.

14. (Original) The computer system as recited in claim 8, wherein the electrically conductive material includes beryllium.